



breakdown | po box 188602 | sacramento, ca 95818-8602

breakdown 4
the after school special



YOUTH RIGHTS

FARMING.

EARTH FIRST

ONE DOLLAR

CONFORM YOU LIL FREAK

QUEER KID dO N A T I O N

QUEER TEACHER

A N d / O R

AN TIMIN D F U C K .

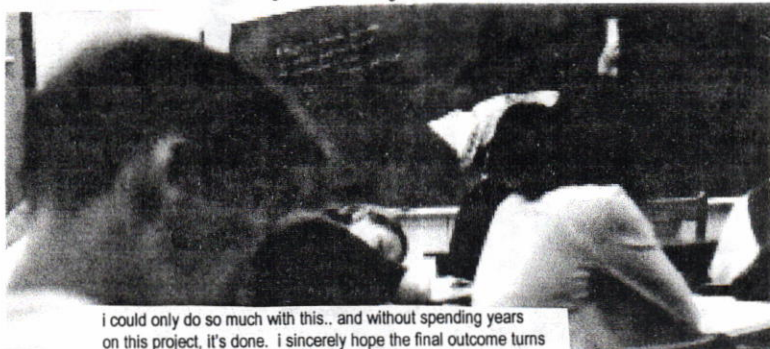
S T A M P S

N E R D L I K E

t R A D E !

so this is breakdown 4..the zine that started it all. always antiskool, and political as can be. this has been in the making for months. surprisingly, when you start soliciting submissions from all your zinestar friends, things start getting a little confusing. yah, it all worked out though.

this isn't a comp zine. everything with no credits to it was done by me, everything else should be accounted for. so there.. i didn't just put other people's stuff together and call it mine. i've been struggling pretty non stop on this the last few weeks now. not totally non stop, but you get the point eh? i have to admit, this has been one of the harder things i've done though.



i could only do so much with this.. and without spending years on this project, it's done. i sincerely hope the final outcome turns out ok. it looked kinda funny when i printed the test copy, but i'm sure it'll be ok.

write.. and write. copies of chokehold 2, my perlitical zine is still available, and still going strong. i have older issues of breakdown around, and also patches, stickers, buttons, and tshirt transfers. send me some donations for em, or just email, or write about it. i don't have everything worked out yet.

be sure to go to my site if you're a little computer nerd kid... <http://breakdown.8m.com> it'll get better as time progresses, but go see .. please. i shouldn't forget to mention to keep in touch. i have more projects to come. musically, and visually. i have yet to showcase my portfolio online yet, so that's gonna be a good. write me a letter, give me a hello, drop me an email. come by the drop out office. and thanks to all the kids that helped me on this and other misleading thanks to amber, ziprock, lauren, rell, evan, pam, leah, kerith, lies-a, athena, jeremy, candy, katrina, less, corinna, nicole, justin, jayna, marla, sarah, mad!, paul, damien, jon armstrong, peter from deathmetalmilitia, unamerican activities, mary @ the tree of knowledge, menghsin, the bryant, and jensen families, lee bob, lazy jane, liz, jenn, john from across the street, mosi, heather bee, thelma, jessica, bill, tim, the two amy's i know, andi, and everyone else i forgot. thanks for all the trades kids.. i love you all..

love

-fungus bot
emo boy from hell!

po box 188602 | sacramento, ca 95818-8602 |
ce7in@antisocial.com

ohio

-information terror, antioch college, 765 livermore st, yellow springs, oh 43620

oregon

-the liberation collective, 2 nw third ave and burnside in portland (503.525.4975 | <http://www.aracnet.com/~libcol> | libcol@aracnet.com) "discussion groups, hangout, free lit, lending library, books, records, shirts, and more" you can get their monthly newsletter by sending a 55 cent stamp to their mailing address (po box 9055, portland, or 97207).
-reading frenzy, 921 oak st, portland, or 97205 (503.274.1440) zinstore, and more..
-spurkraft free skool, a warehouse on brazee and mlk jr in portland .. offering classes on welding, bike repair, sewing, and more. check it out!

pennsylvania

-wooden shoe books, 112 s. 20th st, philadelphia, pa 19103
-a-space, 4722, baltimore ave, philadelphia, pa 19143

washington

-left bank books, 92 pike st, seattle wa, 98101 (209.622.0195)

wisconsin

-rainbow bookstore collective, 426 w. gilman, madison, wi 53703

and beyond..

australia

計分例

-barricade books, 115 sydney rd, brunswick 3056 australia (03.93976646)

canada

-who's emma, 69 1/2 nassau st, toronto, ontario, canada m5t 1m6 (416.598.3354) "a volunteer-run collective. radical books, zines, and diy music. a place to drink cheap organic coffee, vegan junk food, and plot revolutions. send a dollar for record collection, and distro's get in touch." mailing address: po box 543, station p, toronto, ontario m5s 2t1, canada.
-sabat infoshop, box 8137, victoria bc, v8 3r8, canada (604.360.2772)
-librarie alternative, 2035 st-laurent, montreal, canada pq h2x 2t3

england

-121 centre, 121 railton rd, brixton, london, england se24
-1 in 12 club, 21-23 aibion st, bradford, england bd1 2ly
-crossroads books, po box 287, london, england nw6 5qu (0171.4822496) "distro, collective, and womyns centre.

ireland

-warzone, po box 148, belfastm n. ireland bt1

mexico

-bibliteca social reconstruir, morelos 45, desp. 206, col centro, cp06006, mexico 1df, mexico, (01525.512.0886)

Right of Way

Bowler on right has right of way. Stay out of his line.

scotland

-autonomous centre of edinburgh, 17 west montgomery place, edinburgh eh7 5ha, scotland, uk (0131.557.642 | <http://www.punk.org.uk/ace>) ace infoshop.. w/ punk lending library, net access, supplies, and meeting space for other events.

sloenia

-skrati, c/o retina, metekova ulica 6, 1000, ljubljana, slovenia (skrati@kud-fp.si)

Have Fun

You'll best remember when you're bowling. Remember, bowling is a sport, meant to be enjoyed your score.

infoshops

if you happen to have any of these in your area, be sure to give it a chance. the modern radical library. infoshops are the best places to do hands on learning. ok, it could be if you utilize them correctly. most of them usually have a massive book and zine library, so you can just sit, and read all day. i've also included collective spaces such as drop out, and some others. thanks for the great info in my slingshot organizer, and their anniversary zine thing, and slug and lettuce 56. there's a list like this in s&l. but with all the info together, this shall be the super list. like all the other resources, feel free to distribute this info.

8	in the states..
9	california
	-the long haul infoshop, 3124 shattuck ave, berkeley ca 94705 (510.540.0751)
	-drop out resource center, 1114 21st st, sacramento, ca 95814 (916.447.3971) full on resource center with zines, books, and rad people.
10	-bound together books, 1369 haight st, san francisco, ca 94103 (415.431.8355)
	colorado
11	-left hand book collective, 1825 pearl street, 2nd fl, boulder, co 80302
	florida
	-civic media center, 1021 w. university, gainesville, fl 32603 (904.973.0010)
12	illinois
	-autonomous zone infoshop, 1573 n. milwaukee #420, chicago, il 60622 (773.278.0775, street address: 2311 w. north ave.)
3	louisiana
	-crescent wrench books & infoshop, 1007 st. mary st, new orleans la 70130 (504.527.0077)
4	michigan
	-trumbull theatre, 4210 trumbull, detroit, mi 48208 (313.832.0114, ask for tony tha4tg@hotmail.com) "diy @narchist owned and operated punk rawk operated". slug and lettuce mentioned something about hip hop, @narchist gatherings, political activity, and more, but they worded everything funny.
5	

massachusetts
-firecracker infoshop, 72 franklin st, worchester, ma 01608 (508.753.4002)
-lucy parsons center, 549 columbus ave, boston, ma 02118-1125

minnesota
-the action resource center, 520 w. lake st, minneapolis, minnesota 55408 (612.825.4745)
"dedicated to providing information and support to encourage and promote non-violent direct action against all oppression. space available for projects, classes, and meetings."
-insur-recreation center, 816 e. 38th street, minneapolis, mn on the corner of chicago ave. (po box address.. box 8172, mpls, mn 55408) "a new autonomous infoshop and diy gig space in s. mpls. don't send mail to street address!"
-arise! resource center, 2441 lyndale ave south, minneapolis, mn 55408

new york
-blackout books, 50 ave b, new york city, 10002 (212.777.1967) between 3rd and 4th streets.
-abc no rio, 156 rivington st, new york city, ny 10002 (212.254.3697) located between suffolk & clinton streets, 2 blocks e. houston.

north carolina
-internationalist books, 405 w. franklin st, chapel hill, nc 27516 (919.942.1740)

i'm not dropping out of life (6.5.99)

ok, so college isn't completely for me. i sit here, a year after my initial decision to come here. i'm not saying it was even a bad decision. not at all. this has probably been the best year of my life so far... i've learned more on my own, and i've just grown. i can tell. but i'm gonna go out on a limb and say that college hasn't been the best place to be.

i'm sitting here about to drop a class.. (little did i know that it was too late, and i had to just sit through it the rest of the semester). it's not the way i intended to end this semester, but its goes along with my new improved plan. i'm failing this intermediate algebra class.. this set agreement laid before isn't working like everyone else planned. there is no way that everyone can be learning on this same level.

as much as i thought college was the right, and best idea, i'm kinda iffy about it now, yes, you have control over what you want to do, but it's a little deceived. it's like you are led to believe you have all these choices .. but there are loopholes everywhere. it's ok if you don't mind taking all those other classes for your degree. i just didn't realize that all those "other" classes would eventually get to me.

why do you want to college? you. it's all on you, and it should have always been, but this decision, like all the rest, should be on you. is this because your parents think it's the right choice? it's always ok to try it out.. maybe that degree i what you're looking for. i'm sure maybe college is just the natural thing to do.

is a degree one of the things that you want to be judged by? it's even worse if you're a product of a chinese family like me. that's like the main thing i'm judged by.. and how weird i look compared to everyone else's kid. degrees aren't what they were tens of years ago. just as jane hex cites an essay called "college is for suckers" by ted rall in punk planet 31. "a few of his points include the fact that while a degree may make you more marketable when you are looking for work, the difference is slight compared to the cost of tuition and fees. and of course the fact that, in this country, most people with degrees end up spending the next twenty years paying off their student loans. so if you didn't get a job relative to that degree you paid for, it's quite a waste of money, no?"

that is true don't you think? she goes to explain her own experience with it.. "i am living proof of this. i dropped out of liberal arts college after two years, struggled awhile, figured out what i wanted to do, taught myself how to do it, and now i am making more money than my father did when he was forty, doing something i actually enjoy, and building a strong resume. and no loans to worry about. hah. of course..i'd still like to learn more, possibly even in a classroom setting. but we'll see if i ever feel like i don't have the skills to get a good job again. doubt it. just lucky i guess. but i will admit: i do not yet have my dream career, which would be to write full time. but i guess i have always known how much luckier i would have to be to do that for a living." sometimes, it just takes a little reading else where to realize a little something. you have to realize that the majority of your young adult life has been training for the job of your dreams.. or as you think. be careful, because some of this may be unnecessary. it's really your call again.

so once again, it's your decision.. life is just board game. there are all this different options, and paths to take. just like everyone's road might not be the same at all. the education system should fit this idea as well. maybe something about one size fit all education does ring true..?

at least college gives you those limited deceived choices, but what about their required classes to transfer, and for the degrees. it's hard decide on what you plan to do the rest of your life.

i'm better off untitled!

it has been so fucking long since i went to school. i am 25!
school has been out of my life for years! the only thing i miss is
summer break. you kids got it easy...

i have such a different perspective of school now that i am an old
lady. it was such a HUGE part of my life at one time (obviously).
but now that i look back, it wasn't the sub-par education that was
important but my god damn social life! who gives a fuck about
finals and suggested reading. it was about who's fuckin' my man,
what time are we ditching, and lets kick her ass after school!!

i didn't always feel that way. i was a total edu-nerd in school. i
started kindergarten a year early at 4, and was also offered to
skip grades 4 and 9. i was an overachieving "school is my LIFE!"
kinda gal. until i got sick of being picked on. until i got sick of
thinking that an ultimate friday evening out is dinner and a movie
with my parents.

shit changed at 14. and i never looked back. thank god!!!!

i had some wild times in high school and none of them involved
actual school work. i still had honors and AP classes. by the time
i graduated, i had 5 years of spanish under my belt for godsake!
but i guess i was smart enough to ditch and party all the time,
while still maintaining a high C, low B average.

high school was a blast, and if i had to do it all over i wouldn't
change a thing (well, maybe i wouldn't have scammed with jason
what's-his-name). it was the only time in my life that i truly had
no responsibilities what-so-ever (well, besides college).

for all of you who hate school, i promise it will be over before
you know it. i don't mean to sound like an old goat, but it is true.
live each day to its fullest, and try not to regret a damn thing.
your high school and college years are truly the best in your life.
now just go out and live them like they are.

:P luv,

kerith pisces and other droppings, 369 so. doheny dr. #106, beverly
hills, ca 90211

-html and other web design stuff

- ⇒ webmonkey - (<http://www.webmonkey.com>) all these great tutorials on web design, and other aspects of nerd life.
- ⇒ dynamic drive - (<http://dynamicdrive.com>) learn some dhtml, and soup up your webpage.
- ⇒ typograpunx - (<http://www.upstatepress.com/typograpunx>) a zine with a real design end to it. they have a really rad zine, and they do it all around typography (text-based stuff). no graphics at all. it's rad.

-other

- ⇒ art crimes - (<http://www.graffiti.org>) the graffiti resource and keep in mind it's the biggest you can find. with zine reviews, flix, and mountains out links.
- ⇒ sacto graff - (<http://www.graffiti.org/sac>) check out some of sacto's writers.
 - ⇒ primate freedom tour - (<http://www.primatetour.org>) vivisection is a crime, help stop it in 99!
 - ⇒ in defense of animals - (<http://www.idausa.org>) news on the tour, and more on how to spread the animal love. what a great animal rights group. they designed the primate freedom site too.
 - ⇒ peta - (<http://www.peta.com>) people for ethical treatment of animals. they're not really into direct action, but their info is great. a great site to start off with if you want to get into animal rights.
- ⇒ ozymandia's sabotage handbook - (http://www.cafeunderground.com/Cafesite/Rooms/Ozymandia/sabotage_index.htm)
 - ⇒ headwaters earth first! - (<http://www.enviroweb.org/headwaters-ef/>)
 - ⇒ earth first! journal - (<http://www.enviroweb.org/ef/>) radical publication documenting actions and other environmental news dealing with earth first!
 - ⇒ rainforest action network - (<http://www.ran.org/>)
 - ⇒ environmental protection information center - (<http://www.epic.org/>) located in garberville, ca, they do alot of work for headwaters forest. go learn some more about it.
 - ⇒ handbook for a better future - (<http://www.mit.edu/8001/people/howes/environ.html>)
 - ⇒ protest.net - (<http://www.protest.net>) do something..?
- ⇒ the spunk library - (<http://www.spunk.org>) @narchist library! it's so great to learn so much in one place.
- ⇒ road raging, tips for wrecking roadbuilding - (<http://www.eco-action.org/rr/index.html>)
- ⇒ mcspotlight - (<http://www.mcspotlight.org>)
- ⇒ mid atlantic infoshop - (<http://www.infoshop.org/>) now would be a great time to find out what an infoshop is. check out their treasure chest of resources too.



here are some links for the e revolution. since the internet is so wide spread, and accessible by millions of people around the world, it has proven to be one of the best resources for information anywhere. not only are there cool people to talk to and socialize with, it's rather simple to get info on radical topics. so here's some stuff to consider.

-antiskool

- ⇒ ami's anti-school zone! - (<http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Nook/1601/index.htm>) so there are cool unschooling kids online. check it out.
- ⇒ school is dead, learn in freedom - (<http://learninfreedom.org/>)
- ⇒ homeschool legal defense association - (<http://www.hskda.org/>)
- ⇒ a citizen's guide to educational reform - (<http://www.schoolchoices.org/>)
- ⇒ alternative higher education network - (<http://hampshire.edu/html/cs/ahen/ahen.html>)
- ⇒ high school underground - (<http://www.hsunderground.com>) support network for high schoolers to speak out, and use their free speech rights. go kids go!
- ⇒ school damage - (<http://www.angelfire.com/il/wrights/schooldamage.html>) aboveground newspaper to express their opinions of the system, and a soapbox for using their rights. seems like the above link, but really, it's not.
- ⇒ the libertarian unschooling pages - (<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/6529/>)
- ⇒ jon's homeschool resource page - (<http://www.midnightbeach.com/hs/>) the biggest site for homeschooling info. check out his unschooling pages too.
- ⇒ grace jellwyn's page - (<http://hometown.aol.com/GraceJanet/>) yay! from the author of the "teenage liberation handbook". also the update home of sorts for the genius tribe catalog.
- ⇒ the homeschool association of california - (<http://www.hsc.org/>) wonderful resource of homeschoolers, and unschoolers alike. info on the legislative side of it, great reasons why people homeschool, and they also publish the "the california homeschooler". so far, it's the best homeschooling magazine i've see. all the others are a little bland.
- ⇒ unschooling.com - (<http://www.unschooling.com>) check out what unschooling really means.. and more.
- ⇒ teesdale school anti-bullying page - (<http://www.teesdale-school.durham.sch.uk/vwbully98.html>)

-alternative colleges

- ⇒ the center for media and independent learning - (<http://www.cmil.unex.berkeley.edu/>)
- ⇒ city university - (<http://www.cityu.edu>) they offer distance education options.. yay!
- ⇒ evergreen state college - (<http://www.evergreen.edu>) great alternative in olympia washington a few of my friends went to.

-zine resources, etc..

- ⇒ the old factsheet5 page - (<http://www.factsheet5.com>) it was the review zines of review zines before it folded. check out some of their archives, and great resources
- ⇒ diy search - (<http://www.diysearch.com>) a great search with zines, and other great topics in mind. it's too bad non diy folks take advantage of this too.
- ⇒ the book of zines - (<http://www.zinebook.com>) has some great how to's and more.
- ⇒ the e zine list - (<http://www.meer.net/~john/e-zine-list/>) find out what's out there on the net. this is the largest directory of e zines i've seen.
- ⇒ oblivion - (<http://www.oblivion.net>) nice youth zine

cranking out the drones for the workforce

i'm really starting to believe that society treats kids as some sort pet... like a disobedient dog or something. yah, it's always the answer. throw a bunch of kids, and treat them like shit for 12 years.. yah! perfect, and in between, we can teach them to join us. lay out a system out for them.. right into the two tier society we have today. and this just leaves the poor out in the gutter.



believe it or not, you'll be one of those drones if you don't do anything. that is if you believe that a high school education can get you somewhere. it's just like the army, but without all the high tech weapons.. instead, you just have a bunch a militant kids running around trying to prove themselves. scary, but true indeed.

the way this education is built creates this monster of a student. nothing else matters, but fulfilling the needs of the system. getting all your credits done. there's no way you can learn in such an environment. ok, you can, but it's hard.. cram cram cram.

i don't plan on working a nine to five job. i refuse to become a part of society, and work my life away. i'm not a wage slave in the rat race. you figure, you go to skool all this time, just to do the same ol thing again.. work. doing some grunt work job that has nothing relevant to what you want to do. and it's weird how even those jobs are hard to find these days.. even the meaningless jobs are snatched away so quick. i'm telling you, they made it seem ok. working minimum wage crap jobs, and being treated like shit is ok.

just think of what you want to do. don't let this whole character get carved out of you before you even realize it. think of all this other stuff you can do with your time. diplomas mean nothing. you can even get into college these days without them. i took myself out of that road.. i couldn't be pushed any further. and i'm ok.. without work..

working a job would put me in the same situation i was in as a student. i don't want to do something cause i have to, not in this situation. sorry, but i plan on creating my own profession. i'm not even gonna call anything i want to do a job, it'll just put a negative vibe to it. so what am i gonna do with myself?

[Signature]

STUDENT NAME Jon Armstrong GRADE: 9 10 11 12 TIME 9/9/98 DATE

YOUR STUDENT HAS BEEN GIVEN DETENTION ASSIGNMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON(S):

- () TARDY PERIOD Disobey
() CLASSROOM DISRUPTION Disturbance during film
() OTHER hear film. Student sent to Mr. Van Brent, class given A.H. Assign. Student off track, disturbing class activity

The detention will be held on Friday Sept 11 from 3:15 until 4:15 (A) from 3:15 until 3:45 (1)

OT BE ADMITTED.
WORK THE ENTIRE TIME OR
DETENTION ASSIGNMENT.
DONALD ARMSTRONG
ELEMENTS MAY RESULT IN A
FOR DISOBEDIENCE.
NOTICE HOME TO NOTIFY
IF THIS DETENTION CANNOT
MUST NOTIFY THE
AY THE DETENTION IS TO
D WITHIN THREE (3)
on home answer
machine
9/9 at 3:26p.
her/Administrator Signature
Asked at work
phone if had
private voice mail

TEN NICE THINGS ABOUT NOT GOING TO SKOOL

- sleeping in ★
- reading whatever you want (and having the time to do so)
- thinking for yourself
- having discussions and not raising your hand
- eating whenever you like
- going on walks on rainy / sunny mornings
- learning about life ★
- having more time to yourself
- not worrying about being late
- peeing (and changing your tampon) whenever the desire strikes you.



22593 D. KENNEDYS Holiday in -distros
genius tribe, po box 1014, eugene, or 97440 (\$2, or send \$3 and get a coupon for \$3 off your first order!)
straight from the author of the "teenage liberation handbook". the distro for unschooler's, drop out's, and everyone else. aside from all these other great distro's, this one has focussed on the area of education.

28232 Fl Short Bus
deathmetalmilitia - po box 17838, clearwater, fl 33762 | 727.538.9050
deathmetalmilitia is a distro my friend peter helps run. there's always stuff in there that i'm interested in. they accept barter, and stamps instead of money. yay! i've been trading with them for a while, and it's been peechee ever since. they have tons of stuff on ecology, anarchism, veganism/animal liberation, diy stuff, and like lots of other stuff. i'm so in love with it.. i'm stoked. thanks peter for all the support! send some stamps for the catalog. maybe as diy as you can get =)

GRAVITY KILL: Oval Logo
ak press - po box 40682, san francisco, ca 94140-0682
<http://www.akpress.org> | akpress@akpress.org. 415.864.0892
giant 150 page catalog full of anarchist titles, and more. cd's, punk, beat, zines, buttons, alternative radio.. they have a category for everything. massive collection of material under each category. call, write, or just contact them for a catalog.

MORRISON My Fire
tree of knowledge - po box 251766, little rock, ar 72225
treeofknowledgepress@yahoo.com. 501.663.5112
"independent mail order distribution and publishing collective dedicated to non-corporate promotion of the small press." including books, zines, and more. i'm getting the impression that by listing all these distro's, everyone's gonna try to distinguish that they all have the same things. it's not like that though. each distro has their own style to it. send a stamp or two for the catalog. they seem to be based more on politic issues more than anything else.

DM 357
left bank books collective - 1004 turner way east, seattle, wa 98112
<http://www.leftbankbooks.com> | leftbank@leftbankbooks.com. 206.322.2868
another big huge catalog. left book actually has a book store in seattle. what nice people.. i met some of collective kids at the @narchist bookfair this year. they are totally not for profit project, and believe in mutual aid. just thought i'd state it, since they did. they have their stuff listed in broad categories such as books & pamphlets, periodicals, zines & newspapers, and more. i'd like to list them all, but you get the idea. go visit their bookstore if you can @

92 pike st, seattle, wa 98101. the number for the store is different as well, 206.622.0195

35661 METALLICA
Beavis Butthead Logo
"sorry about the vagueness of my descriptions for the distros. if you can, check them all out.. it won't hurt your pocketbook, so you really have nothing to lose."

3 COSECTITIVE PAGES
Burning Flowers
21944 METALLICA
Caretaker

quick little reviews.. or what not.

piscis catalog - kerith always have the most rockin zines ever.. even one of mine! yay! go to her site it's nice and computer nerd friendly.
<http://www.chickpages.com/zinescene/pisciszone/piscisonline.html>
369 so. doheny dr. #106, bverly hills, ca 90211

to avoid suffocation - yay, this is actually how i found out about less. thanks for introducing me to the zinestar's list, and for the great zine. you always do make a kid think... great job, and as hard hitting as can be. suffocated@chickmail.com or po box 211, jonesboro, me 04648

a bowl of oatmeal - whoa.. it's so funny how sweet rell has the same birthday as me.. =) july 8th, put it on your calender. her zine is so personal, and yet graphically pleasing. go check out her site too, and you'll just see how clever she is. email her at Tmtables@aol.com and tell her i said hi.

arrowed - i just got number 6, and i'm so stoked. i'm sorry lauren i didn't get this done in time for your birthday.. random thoughts of kindness. thanks again.. you always wind up making my day. it's so rad i actually got the zine when i got it since it motivated me to work harder and finish this. expect some kick ass drawings, and collages. rock on yo....
arrowzine@aol.com, and summer address: lauren michele fardig
630 center drive, ann arbor mi 48103

-local publications.. and the special ones

drop out - 114 twenty-first street, sacramento, ca 95814-7208 (\$1ppd, or free in person)
dropout@phayze.com | 916.441.5526

yay drop out! i just had to mention this here, since it seemed like the best place to plug drop out. the drop out zine is put out be the drop out collective every once in a while (when there is money for printing..). for unschooling, it seems like the best zine out there.. it's the best resource i've found, and it helped me when i dropped out. if it wasn't for drop out, i probably wouldn't be doing a zine, or even be here. i'd still be in high school, and i'd would have been somewhat apathetic about a lot of the causes that i'm fighting for today.

the drop out zine is more than just that. the drop out zine is the backbone of sorts for the drop out collective. as a part of collective, it's opened me up to more things well, i'm more politically aware about things. drop out is a resource center. we have a zine library, and a fat radical resource library. with the help of drop out, breakdown has flourished through the year it's been out. thanks for everything, all the resources, the friends i've gained, time, and the love it's given me.

because people matter - 403 twenty-first street, sacramento, ca 95814 (free in sacto, or \$15/year by mail.. anywhere)

because people matter is an all volunteer endeavor out of sacramento. it's been around for quite some time now, and has been a great resource for alternative media in the community. every two months, you get to read about the latest news in bpm. i've found it to be so informative, and a must for sacramento. i can't stress it enough how important alternative media is.. in a place like sacramento that doesn't really get much stuff done. bpm is constant on radical news that the mainstream media sources lack. read the truth. and activists, take a look at their calender.. a must for any sacto kid.

HOW TO GET MOM N' DAD TO LET YOU OUT OF SCHOOL.



BY ZIPPY

okay, obviously, there are very few parents out there who are going to be pleased when their kid says they want to drop out. they have been indoctrinated by the system and actually believe that school is a good thing. they don't know any better.

first off, before you nag your parents for not understanding, familiarize yourself with the reasons you want to leave. how is being out of school going to be beneficial and production for you? how is it going to benefit them? (thing in terms of less fighting)

secondly, explain clearly that you want a good education instead of that crappy indoctrinating excuse for one offered through compulsory schooling. smile a lot, don't talk down to them, and act like you would be doing them a favor. cause you really are! it might be helpful to write out a plan of what you're going to "study" and how you're going to go about it. it makes them feel more secure when they know you're not going to be laying in bed all day watching mtv looking at porn with your boys and smokin' bud. we both know life is better than that.

any how, it may take a while (years, even) to convince them, but if you're determined, it will work out. it took me over a year to get my parents to let me out of school. i went through a lot of fighting and hard bullshit, but i don't regret it.

sometimes, you may have to accept a half-way point, like fungus here who promised he would go to college right afterwards. you may have to settle for only part-time schooling if you parents are stingy.

in short, don't give up. the world is too magical of a place. remember that many people approve of what you're doing, and if you don't have that support at the right time, then write to po box 2624, portland, or 97208-2624, and i shall have mercy and spread encouragement upon thee!

Queer Kid, Queer Teacher- less 1990- freshman year Small Rural Private High School in Maine- 400 students a staff of 25 Me- Leslie, 14 year old from small rural town Placed in College Track

It wasn't 1990 when the taunts and teasing started but much earlier, say 6th grade, that they were worse but by 1990 I knew that I should keep who and what I was hidden from view. I knew at 12 that I was different from the other kids but it seems so did those other kids- this followed me until I graduated from high school.

I look back at high school with fear in my heart. I remember the 14 year old girl I was- working my ass off in my classes to achieve the A's that would get me the hell out of this hick town and away from these people who made my life a living hell. I remember the 14 year old girl who walked quickly down the halls to avoid being thrown into a locker by the hick boys who thought it was cool to brag about feeling up the lesbian. I remember the 14 year old girl who developed a tough shell to protect her from the harassment of her peers and the teachers who ignored what was happening- most of all I remember the 14 year old girl who sat in her bedroom with 4 shots of vodka, a bottle of aspirin and a razor blade ready to die. I look back and see what my teachers could have done to make my life easier and what they did to make it hell.

I'm a lesbian. I'm a teacher. I grew up in a small rural town. I went to a private high school in a town nearby because my town didn't have one. It was a small school and there I suffered harassment that I told myself that someday students wouldn't have to suffer. School was perhaps one of the most frightening places for me- as a young queer I lived in fear that someone would find out about my "difference." In every other sense I was normal- the way I dressed, my interests, and even the sports I played. The fear that someone might find out scared me more than I was willing to admit- even still I duck my head when I see someone from my class- I'm often as ashamed and frightened as the 16 year old girl I once was. I'm 22 now, and it shocks me that this shame, self hate and fear still follow me.

I went into teaching to help other queer kids. I remember those teachers who made me feel dirty and hated but what stands out most in my memory was that one open minded teacher that helped me feel safe and okay with myself. I wanted to be that teacher. I am that teacher, I hope.

As a teacher looking back to high school I see what I can do to make things different for other queer kids, I see where my teachers went wrong and I see how I can change that. I think the first thing every teacher needs to do is be intolerant of any kind of harassment- name calling is only the surface- it's what we hear- I know that if I hear a kid call another faggot in the halls there is probably a whole hell of a lot more going on where I can't hear it. Ignoring things like this only makes them worse.

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just the two latest, or last issues i've read, i've found it worth my money. there are always great columnists that write for them, not to mention, they have regular sections devoted to the "diy files", and the usual articles, in depth reviews, and much much more. it's even on really nice paper, and looks like a real magazine.. but it is.. heheh. usually, i wouldn't really review this issue by issue, but since i love this like alot, i will. if you can, pick up number 31, it has an article about the punk palace, 924 gilman, and it mentions a little tiny bit about the epicenter collective, and how it's forced to close partly because the rent. a look back to issue 30, you'd want to check out their diy self defense. i wouldn't really want to test out my skills really, but stuff like that kicks.

maximumrocknroll - po box 460760, san francisco, ca 94146-0760 (\$3)

maximumnr@mindspring.com

i found out the other day that mrr is probably at least 16 years old. that's just so friggin rad that a magazine of such a magnitude can stay together for sooo long. m has all the stuff punk planet has, but they pioneered it. or maybe this is what i think. and they stay true with the dirty newsprint. heh. also, just in the battle, the layout isn't as spiffy, but the reviews, and the articles make up for it from time to time. it's definitely worth a look though. you'll always get a heaping helping of punk rawk ads and resources, and the wonderful fantastic news. i guess that's the strong point that can beat out punk planet. yay! also, my mom thinks it's big, so maybe that will help.

heartattack - po box 848, goleta, ca 93116 (\$1.50 ppd, 50 cents in stores)

http://www.ebulliton.com | heartattack@ebulliton.com

i wish i had the new issue of this, but i'm not sure if it's even out yet. so i got lucky, and got issue 20, with a big discussion on diy, and that's what drew me to this. along with the fact the it's described at the hardcore mrr. and you can't beat the price.. even though it's substantially smaller. there are tons of zine reviews, so that's a big plus for the zinestars kids out there too. i wish i had all this money to buy the cds in there.. look for issue 22. the women's issue out now? or soon..

brat - po box 4964, louisville, ky 40204-0964 (\$2.00 or free in louisville)

http://www.brat.org, 502.456.1409

why read brat? "because your school paper sucks!" ok, that's just their subtitle, but it rings true. every school paper i've come across isn't nearly as good as even one page of brat. brat is a publication entirely produced kids, and is funded by it's sponsors. i'd have to say that the layout isn't spectacular, but the content is. there's so much to list, but this should actually be higher up on the list.. it's the only youth related, or youth as fuck thing in this category. i still haven't finished reading the whole entire thing, but i'm getting to it. it's so hard hitting, i have to take it one step at a time. literally, this could be a massive resource for info if you use it the right way. yet again, it sucks when zines, or publications don't have set publishing dates.. issue 8 includes the cover story.. youth violence, an "unschooler's journal", and even something about how fuck the promise keepers are. yes yes! if that's not enough.. heh, just get it if you can. it's just great that youth can crank out something at such a large scale. youth power!

auto-free times- c/o fossil fuels policy action institute, po box 4347, arcata, ca 95518 (\$3)

<http://www.tidepool.com/alliance> | autofree@tidepool.com, 707.826.7775

yes, explaining how a car-free society is a viable alternative. it can be done. i love how this covers the many aspects of bike culture. global reports, so you can read about all the other actions around the world to make bikes a realistic alternative to cars in cities, and beyond. it's interesting since they cover vehicles powered by alternative fueling systems.

profane existence - blackened distribution, po box 8722, minneapolis, mn 55408 (\$3ppd, \$1.50 in stores)

<http://www.profaneexistence.com>

it's to bad i actually started to discover this great publication as it was folding. yeah, it sucks.. but after nine years in publication, they reached anarchists and punks throughout the world. so now i know, and love anarchopunk, and profane existence isn't around to help me out anymore. it was such a great anarcho punk resource through the years though. constant news and updates on events made profane existence a fan favorite in the scene. luckily, back issues are still available and they have alot archived online.. so pig out. the last issue of profane existence, number 37, includes a really informative spread on mumia abu jamal, a bit about the anarcho punk federation, a essay about how to "abolish the white punk" by one of the co editors, and more.

slug & lettuce - c/o christine, po box 26632, richmond, va 23261-6632 (55 cent stamp ppd, or free in person/stores..)

my friend jayna always tell me if you get one zine, this is the one to get. yes, she may be sure. every other thing you might want in a zine is in there. and if it's not in there, there's a link to it some how. so there you go. =) and best of all, it's basically free, so, you have nothing to lose at all. i can almost guarantee that you'll learn something new in each issue. the essays are just amazing.. and usually always worthy of mentioning. and always with a special intro from the editor chris, along with her great show pics. tons of reviews, and the usual stuff you would love.. all the great columns, classifieds, reviews, and just the ads may fun to look sometimes. slug & lettuce may be one of the best resources in the scene, due to all the reviews for zinestars, and just having it being free helps too. issue 59 includes an article about ecopunk, and also the introduction, or the first of a few columns about genetic engineering. great job!

punk planet - po box 464, chicago, il 60690 (\$3.50)

i'm so excited! i just found out the new issue is out, so i'm super stoked about that. =) punk planet isn't a zine like some people think, but something like maximum rock and roll, which some of you kids may have heard about. for some odd reason, i always thought these two magazines in the punk scene were bitter rivals. ok, i have good reason to think that, but that's not really anything to consider. punk planet has quickly grown to be one of those magazines that i just need to pick up whenever it comes out (bimonthly). i have to have it as soon as possible. it's that great. from

I have the liberty of working in a small school where I am very visible- students know me and know that if they need something or a place to "hide" they can always come to me and my room. My room is a safe zone- all schools need this- especially if the school itself is not safe, like the one I work in. I don't even feel safe in my school. I work my hardest that the students feel safe in my classroom.

I see what other teachers ignore and I look back. I tough for me to see the hurt and pain on the faces of students because teachers don't seem to give a shit about them. In some senses I think that many people just do not know how to deal with the issue of gay harassment, so they ignore it. This is a lame excuse but it only shows how teachers need sensitivity training.

Public schools need massive reconstruction and work before they are indeed a safe environment for students.

O+ O+ Less +O +O
po box 211 | joneboro me 04648
suffocated@chickmail.com

He might have been the man who discovered a cure for cancer.

Dropouts become losers.
They lose.
And we lose.
Today's dropouts might have been tomorrow's scientists. Or doctors. Or teachers.
But what might have been will never be.
For one out of three high school students doesn't stick around to graduate.
The dropout is ten times as likely to become a juvenile delinquent.
And the juvenile delinquent is perhaps a thousand times more likely to become a criminal.
It doesn't have to happen.
Good schools with good teachers and good facilities can produce good citizens. And that can make our world a better place in which to live.
Which is why money spent on education represents the best investment we can make.
An investment in the future of America.

This message is sponsored by the Copter Duplicator and VariTyper divisions of the Addressograph Multigraph Corporation.

As businessmen who have a stake in education, we are deeply involved in ways to use communications technology to improve the quality of American education. If, for instance, the Multigraph's direct press has been used in programs that serve to recapture the interest of potential high school dropouts and help prepare them for gainful employment.

Second, because we believe America's future - and ours - is no better than the future of American education. If you would like more information on how educators are using the products of the Copter Duplicator and VariTyper divisions to improve their schools, or if you'd like reprints of this message, write Addressograph Multigraph Corporation, 1200 Dabney Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44117. (Information sources on request.)

student rights!

with free speech ("expression or communication of facts or info, in written or in spoken form"), you might actually wonder what rights you have to speak out. along with your rights to protest, you have other rights when it comes down to school. students of compulsory school are often stripped of basic constitutional rights, but this is what you do have on your side.

there are other sources that might be worth a look, but here's my condensed version. check out "the student's guide to protesting" for more on that subject. it also gives a quick review on what the first few amendments may do for you. it's available from deathmetalmilitia (listed in the back in the distro list). note: a lot of my stuff is cited from resources that cover california law. each state may differ, except for most of the info in the first section.

here we go..

- ☒ the school facility is not traditionally a public forum. students, and staff don't automatically have the legal right to speech activities, but they are covered by the first amendment. basically, unless they interfere with schoolwork, etc.. they are entitled to their free speech activities which are not sponsored by the school.

- ☒ you have the right to distribute leaflets, and other info before or after school is out. they may impose other time restrictions if you decide to distribute your info at any other time (i.e., between classes, or during lunch). also, you or the conspirator of this may remain anonymous. just a little something to keep in mind.

- ☒ picketing ("single person, or group standing, or walking near a specific location as a means of communication of a particular issue/viewpoint.") is subject to regulations of time, place, and manner. due to the fact that picketing is comprised of speech and conduct (the viewpoints, along with the capacity for obstruction), there are limits involved. the number of people involved maybe also be restricted without being in violation with the constitution, but not because of the issue. also, distance restrictions may be applied if the picketers are interfering in any previous, or ongoing events. if there is a need, and if it isn't excessive, then the distance restrictions can be imposed.

the digger - c/o lauren r. 2690 l.k. wood #a, arcata, ca 95521 (send stamps, trade, or donation)

for some reason, this was one of the zines in my collection that i never took the time to write to. the writing in here was amazing. i think my first impression was fear to send them my zine, but it's ok now. anyways, this zine is put out by "4 women from arcata (not all from food not bombs)." the issue i happily picked up included a spread about homosexuality, and the bible, and a different look at food not bombs. i always did find it kinda weird that in order for food not bombs to be fully legal, you have to fork over something like 5000 dollars for a license to serve free food. fuck that!

analysis paralysis - 162 n. saginaw st. pontiac, mi 48342. 248.332.9997 (send stamps, trade, or donation) <http://www.vgkids.com> | james@vgkids.com
"this world is fucked up, it's time to build a new one." what a fuckin great concept, a vegan grocery store. i just wish there were more of these things around the world. it's not one of those coop's that are run on a underlying profit, but it's a punk run store, with a record store, and collective space. just like james states, it's a "template for action". they even have a darkroom with vegan photo paper.. which is just super fly. great articles about what the collective is about, and terrific layout of it's first issue. it's great to see someone else who thinks that just records, and music isn't enough to change the world.

enlisted void - po 665, freedom, ca 95019 (50 cents/trade)
thesureshot@hotmail.com

who says comps of good information is bad? oh yah, the "throwrug" kids did when they reviewed my zine chokehold one. i'm not sure if this the latest, but the sure shot puts together a really good comp of what anarchism is really about.. straight from the anarchist book fair. yes you, now you get to find out the truths of anarchistic theory, and all in essay format, so it's really easy to read. the sure shot has done really well putting together a themed zine. and for you hemp freaks out there, check out issue two, the "special hemp issue".

potluck - get it from pander zine distro-po box 582142-minneapolis, mn. 55458-2142 for \$1.50 plus 3 stamps this thick little zine is so rad! as the author, danielle, says in the intro: "potluck is a big mess of things thrown together, like you & me. potluck is realizing im not just a girl, not just white, not just a teenager, not just a dyke but all those things and a million fucken more.." within the pages she writes about white privilege, how high school is so unhealthy for growing people, sexism, and much more. this is amazing! (review by katrina)

-other publications

slingshot - long haul, 3124 shattuck ave, berkeley, ca 94705 (\$1. or free in the east bay)

<http://www.tao.ca/~slingshot> | slingshot@tao.ca, 510.540.0751
long running activist paper out of berkeley, ca. all the news you need in a tiny newspaper type package. news that actually matters.. from local stuff, to other political happenings around the world. great resource calendar as well. be sure to grab yourself a copy if you haven't had the chance to see it before. also, if you're in the area, stop by and you'll experience the wonders of the long haul infoshop.



-resource list

below, is a compilation of publication and sites either dealing with the antiskool movement, and or self education. the majority of the resources here are for the purpose to direct your own learning, and to seek out info on your own. my tribute to a diy education.

-zines

zipper - po box 2624, portland, or 97208
kidfromhell@juno.com

zip has always put out a zine worthy of recognition. always antiskool, and political as you can get in a attractive, and nice punk rawk style layout.. just like me.. but not yah know? each issue is packed with something new and fulfilling.. keeps you there wanting for more. go zip!

be sure to check out her back to school guide for 99-00! there's always something fun packed in a bitesized punch. order a stack and give em out at school, or anywhere. it's fantastic, i promise.. and don't forget to send my love, and some stamps too. it's rad that zip can come up with a new angle ever single time too. great writing, and great art. we love you here at breakdown..

shutdown - same po box as above.. (send stamps, trade, or donation)
shutdown43@hotmail.com

thanks! get ready to get hit with heaping helpings of political info.. from animal rights, to youth rights. damien is always on top of it. not as personal as my stuff, but it's hardcore. i wish he came out with issues more often..

issue 3 features articles about religion, education reform, to a submission about cops from good ol ziprock! i would recommend issue 2 as well due to the articles about dairy, vegetarianism, and a intro to vivisection with gruesome pictures that can motivate you to turn away, and fight it.

treehugger - 950 ford loop rd, unit 4, pahump, nv 89048 (\$1.50)
entering it's 4th year of publication, treehugger deserves to be recognized for it's wonderful grasp on environmental issues, as well as what's fuct happening in political amerikkka. issue 25 even comes with the "why vegan" handbook. you gotta love the guy for just spending more money for postage for spreading the greatness of a vegan diet. no really, that handbook was one of the things that. it's funny to hear all these weird news on things the government does.. so true, and comical at the same time. i guess i just have this itch for the weird new genre.

☒ signs and posters are covered by the constitution and is considered a traditional means of communication. the most protection is granted when the sign is being held, and not left unattended. as quoted from the handbook, "like other speech activities, legitimate regulation of display of signs and posters are based on time, place, and manner."

☒ basically, you have your liberties, but if they get in the way of the state in any way, you'll be stopped.

the unconventional aspects of things will always be there for you. strikes, walkouts, sabotage, etc.. walkouts, and sick outs would be good if you could get it all together. since school's make money off attendance, this could hit them hard if you had the collective effort. it's all on solidarity.

other than your free speech rights, you have other rights as well. i'm not sure what to call these, but here we go again..

☒ as for student discipline, you're allowed to only serve fifteen minutes of detention beyond the normal school day before your parents have to be notified. keep in mind, you may not be detained for more than one hour total.

if you happen to be facing suspension, you have the right to a conference, and a hearing for expulsion. in the case of expulsion, you may appeal at the county board of education. info above cited from c-beyond's "know your rights" mini guide. i don't have the address in hand, but we have them available at the drop out office..

☒ you may be searched if there is a "reasonable and individualized suspicion." they can't be excessively intrusive nor can they search anywhere other than the place they could reasonably find what they are looking for. strip searches are illegal. in the case of a random search, they must have "individualized suspicion" (you must be suspect to breaking the rule yourself). and as always, they can use anything found illegally against you.

☒ also, in the name of animal liberation, californian's also have the right to refuse to dissect, harm, or kill animals, and this applies to students from kindergarten to high school. you have the right to participate in an alternative project i possible. each teacher must inform students of these rights, and the students can't be penalized for choosing not to dissect.

-a few short paragraphs of stuff.. yes, stuff!

in the middle of 10th grade i dropped out of school. the rest of that year i was out, doing things like cooking broccoli and cleaning house for my parents. i never really did "unschooling" like i had thought i would. it was that euphoric feeling of being able to do whatever i wanted, after reading the teenage liberation handbook and other inspiring materials. it didn't work out that way though. i just got really depressed and sat at home. my parents were mad. i claimed it was a 4 month vacation. then summer came and went for reals.

fall came, and i did independent studies through el sereno. i hated that. it was like the worst parts of normal school boiled down into, well, into something really bad. like busy work and textbooks. from there i went back to 11th grade at the sacramento waldorf school, promising my parents that i would get good grades and finish high school. i didn't. for the first few months, i did well, then i just stopped. i kept going to school through the end of the year, but i stopped doing all homework and essays and main lesson books and shit. i had no real explanation for it, but i approached my teachers and tried to come up with one. i said that i just didn't believe in it. which was true. i felt like somehow i had risen above doing any work at all. i didn't feel like i needed my teachers' approval of my work. they were baffled, because i was actively participating in class, and was genuinely interested in what was being taught.

so that year ended with the knowledge that i wasn't going to go back to school for my senior year. summer came, and i moved out of my mom's house in sacramento to my dad's house in guinda. guinda has a population of about 100. it has just the necessities: two general stores (to keep prices down), a post office, a bar, and a church. the town is in capay valley, which is west of woodland in the coastal range. it's a mile wide valley about 30 miles long, with a few "towns" along highway 16 which is the only road that goes through it, winding alongside cache creek. i moved there so i could do some farming.

i got a job at full belly farm, a 200 acre organic farm. i loved it there. they made me pack tomatoes in the 105 degree heat of summer, but it was blissful in its own way. very zen. i also did some work for my dad, who has 10 acres of walnuts and oranges. he used to own the kiwi orchard across road 42, but sold it and some other almonds awhile ago. i learned how to drive the tractor, and did mowing in the orchards. i like tractors. at full belly i also did other things. i worked in the shop for the most part, which meant packing, sorting, and cleaning all the crops that were being harvested by the crew. i learned how the orders from different stores were organized, and all that good stuff.

summer passed by, and my role at the farm changed. i worked there on and off until last february. i ended up teaching art lessons to the kids there, and hanging out with them, and running errands, and other things like that. it was amazingly fun. we would go down to the river and play in the sand, and have mud ball fights. after the big freeze, we would take shirtfuls of frozen oranges down to the cliffs at my dad's, and throw them in the creek, so there would be these orange spots floating down in the current. after all that i moved back to my moms, and the rest is history.

-liz martin, a great friend, and member of the drop out collective. we'll miss you liz!

NTIC CONCEPT TOUR T-SH
Listed SO CONFORMITY?

YOU MIGHT NOT REALIZE IT NOW, YOU COULD THE SUBJECT THE CONSUMERIST IDEALS OF SKOOL. WHAT IS IT TO FIT IN? I REMEMBER I TRIED TO AN EXTENT. IT'S A WEIRD CONCEPT, AND IT ALL HAPPENS FOR THE PURE FACT TO BE DEEMED OK BY THE MAJORITY. THERE'S HARDLY ANY UNIQUE QUALITIES ABOUT SKOOL. YES, ALL THIS CONFORMITY AND ACTING OUT IS BASED ON BEING CONTROLLED IN THE SITUATION.

DON'T FUCKING BUY INTO THAT SHIT KID! IT SUCKS THAT KIDS ARE PUT IN THE SITUATION SUCH AS THIS. IT SHOULDN'T BE LIKE THIS. BUT I GUESS. IT'S NOT MY CALL TO EVEN MAKE ALL THIS STOP, AND OR CHANGE THE STANDARDS OF THINKING. EVERYTHING'S FUCT ALREADY. IT'S YOUR TURN TO THINK. SHALL I TRY TO FIT IN AND BE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, OR SHALL I CREATE MY OWN CHARACTER. (SO TO SPEAK).

IT'S SICK TO SEE EVERYONE LINED UP AT SKOOL. EACH AND EVERY KID LOOKING THE ANOTHER. THEY'VE BOUGHT IN TO THE CONSUMERIST IDEAS THAT WILL LATER RUN THEIR LIVES. IT'S MORE THAN CONFORMITY, AND JUST TRYING TO BE YOURSELF, AND FITTING IN. WE ARE EACH ONE. IM SORRY IF WERE JUDGED BY THE WAY WE LOOK, AND SEGREGATED BECAUSE OF THAT, BUT IM NOT TAKING PART. I WON'T LOOK LIKE YOU, AND BUY YOUR EXPENSIVE CLOTHES. ALL TO FIT IN RIGHT? FUCK THAT. I DON'T NEED TO FIT IN, AND I DON'T NEED TO HAVE EXPENSIVE FRIENDS. FUCK OFF...

INSTITUTION CREATED THE NEED TO MAKE GROUPS, AND MAKE FRIENDS LIKE SUCH. WHAT OTHER COMPULSORY PLACE DOES THIS TO YOU? I DON'T EVEN KNOW OF ANY OTHER PLACES THAT LIMIT, AND APPLY ALL THESE SOCIAL AND PERSONAL LIMITS TO YOUR LIFE. THIS CERTAINLY DOESN'T HAPPEN IN COLLEGE.

S I M A N E R D O I V E T P

W E T W O K X I U

YES, I'M ONE OF THOSE "COOL" KIDS YOU'VE MADE FUN OF FOR NO GOOD REASON. NOT ONLY AM I A NERD, I'M CHINESE. YAH SO I GOT IT BAD EH? I DON'T GET IT, BUT I GOT TAUNTED FOR THAT TOO. I WONDER WHERE THOSE SKOOL KIDS LEARNED TO DISCRIMINATE LIKE THAT, AND AT SUCH AN EARLY AGE? IT'S JUST QUITE A BIT ODD THAT KIDS LEARN TO SEGREGATE THE DIFFERENT RACES AS EARLY AS ELEMNTREE SKOOL. SCARY, MORE THAN ODD.

THIS BEHAVIOR COULD HAVE BEEN LEARNED FROM HOME, BUT THAT MAYBE JUST BE A SMALL PART OF IT. IT'S ALWAYS POSSIBLE, YES, BUT I'M BLAMING SKOOL FOR THIS. MAYBE I JUST LIKE TO BLAME A LOT OF THINGS ON SKOOL BUT I'VE COME TO BELIEVE THAT SKOOL ITSELF IS A BREEDING GROUND FOR HATE. IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN HOW ALL THIS HAPPENS, BUT IT COULD CERTAINLY CHANGE.

I GUESS ALL OF THIS TAUNTING WASN'T THAT BAD, ASIDES FROM HAVING VERY FEW FRIENDS AND BEING PUNKED, AND ROUGHED UP, IT ALL SEEMS OK NOW. YES, NOW, BUT IT WASN'T ALL THAT FUN AS THIS ALL TOOK PLACE. JUST BECAUSE I HAD THOSE MAGICAL GLASSES, AND SEEMED TO DO WELL IN SKOOL LIFE SUDDENLY CHANGES. FOR THE LONGEST TIME, ALL THE FRIENDS I HAD WERE THE ONES THAT USED ME FOR MY BRAIN. I GUESS I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE COOL OR I DID BACK IN LIKE MIDDLE SKOOL.

THAT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE. I'M OVER IT. JUST BECAUSE I'M NOT LIKE THE NEXT GUY, AND I CAN MAKE, AND CREATE MY OWN SENSE OF STYLE, AND CREATIVITY, THAT MAKES ME EVEN MORE UNIQUE. I LOVE HOW I AM NOW, AND THE WEIRDER, THE BETTER. I DON'T WANT TO FIT IN THE MOLD DEALT TO ME. IT GOES BEYOND THE GLASSES, AND TO MY WHOLE APPEARANCE.

A Primer on Consumerism

The consumerist philosophy is what drives preppiness. Every last detail of the prep's programming is rooted in consumerism.

Consumerism is the result of an economic theory in which the only thing that matters is the infinite and exponential increase in economic output, or in their words, economic growth.

In order for this exponential economic growth to occur, you have to get people to buy things. It was once possible to live your whole life without buying a whole lot of commodities. In fact, it's still possible-- the Unabomber did it, spending no more than \$300 a year and that was just to pay for bomb-making materials. But the norm is consumerism, in which you live in a market economy where everything you need to survive is a consumer product that costs money, thereby guaranteeing that either someone will get rich, or everyone will die. But even that isn't enough, because corporations have to make more money each year than they did the previous year, and this is measured as a percentage. A corporation is said to be doing not so well if it only grew by 1% last year, which means economic growth is expected to always be speeding up. One of the tricks that has been devised to fuel economic growth is the construction of goods that break down quickly. Most cars are like this. This way, consumers have to keep buying the same things over and over again.

But even that trick won't make consumerism work forever. Consumerism is based on the notion that there are an infinite amount of natural resources on this planet. According to the consumerist theory, there will always be enough steel to build twice as many cars as were built last year, enough land on which to put twice as many roads as were built last year, enough oil to make twice as much plastic as was made last year, and enough space in which to put all the people that will have to be around to buy it all.

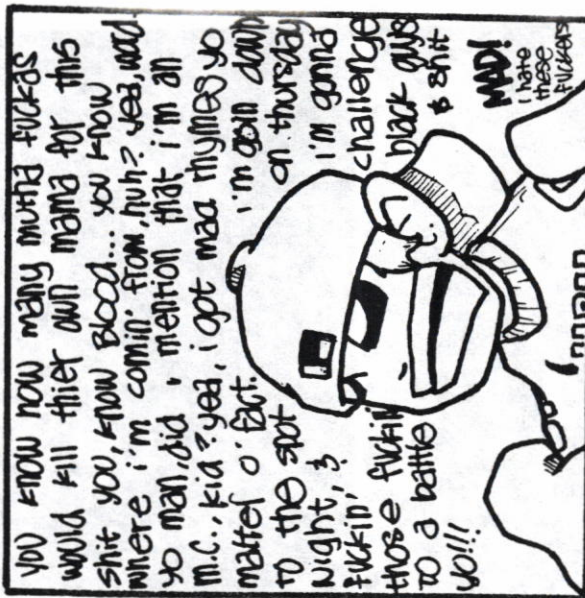
The result of consumerism has been wars, poverty, and a global monoculture (preppiness). In areas where consumerism has only recently been introduced, such as in some Third World countries, the result has been chaos. People who once were able to take care of themselves find themselves competing in a market economy in order to survive.

But preppy branding is not the only thing that is driven by consumerism. Preppy aggressiveness is also the result of consumerism, because the consumerist monoculture pits everybody against each other, and makes them compete to survive. The high school system is designed to instill the consumerist value of competition-- the top 10% of the class gets into all the good colleges, while the rest of them end up struggling for a shrinking number of positions in downsizing corporations, or they can work in the ever-increasing number of jobs at grocery stores, restaurants, and other retailers. Not coincidentally, the central theme of sports (the Preppy religion) happens to be competition.

from "parentally correct: the anti-prep pages." (<http://www.cinternet.net/~daelin/preps/>)

-WHY I HATE SKOOL.

BU: MAD!



i wasn't a lame teenager with no direction to my teachers, i was respected and important to the community as an intelligent being.

i gained so much motivation and self-confidence through my experiences in school. i don't know if alternative schools are the answer (good luck finding an all-inclusive answer to the problems in school systems today!!). not everyone takes it upon themselves to really become involved in their own education. as far as public high schools go, i think i received an amazing education, though much of that had to come from within. i think that self-motivation is an important concept in all forms of educated, institutionalized or otherwise. i don't know how i would be different if such schools weren't offered to me, but i'm thankful that i got the opportunity to attend these schools. they've helped me more than they'll ever know.

-lauren michele fardig

summer 99-630 center drive/ ann arbor, mi/ 48103 fall 99- 135 e. 12th #6A2/ ny, ny/ 10003
email: arrowzine@aol.com... ask me abt my regular zine, arrowed!! it's \$1 and a 55 cent stamp or trade!! c'mon, you want it.

-options for youth quickie

this is a short short excerpt of the listing in drop out 5. since drop out 5 is out of print, if you're interested in a copy, mail me a stamp, and i'll send it along.

-high school equivalency

chspe - take the all mighty high school proficiency test. you may take this while in your second semester in or 10th grade, if you're 16 years of age, or completed one academic year of 10th grade. there's more info, but that's the basics. get the form @ the drop out office, or any public library.. or you can get it at your counselor's office (why bother going there? they're mean). they're online @ <http://www.chspe.com> everything you need is there.

you may also take the ged 60 days before you turn 18, but i wouldn't. you can get into community college without it once you are that magic age so ..

-charter schools

charter schools are independent public schools that vary in curriculum and teaching methods. these are the ones that i know more about ..

natomas charter school - 916.641.3131 or for their arts academy, call 916.928.5353

choice2000 - online based w/ accreditation and everything.
<http://www.choice2000.org>

-other

like i mentioned.. why go at all if you don't want to. the community college system is always open for people over the age of 18. there's much much more to this guide, but this is all i could fit. also, one more common option is independent studies. call capitol city 433-5187. they are the independent school program (isp) for the sacto area.

note: this is based on info from ca.. just letting you know. check with you school counselor, or somewhere else..

"when the school bell tolls"

i have had the good fortune to live in a community where alternative education is embraced and revered. i went to an "open" middle and high school; being in that kind of environment was the only thing that made school bearable fr me.

the concept of open or alternative education isn't new, but it isn't all that common, either. i've spent countless hours trying to explain the philosophy which fuels this movement in education. still, a lot of ppl don't quite understand what i'm talking abt when i refer to an alternative school. it's really hard to encompass yr experiences into words. so here we go...

i heard abt this alternative middle school when i was in the 5th grade and it sounded interesting. classes were taught in team-teaching style, learning was less textbook oriented and more manipulative. they focused on creativity, too, in addition to stressing core classes like science and social studies. i was encouraged to pursue music, art and writing and to dabble and experiment in new fields when selecting my classes. when describing my school then, ppl would ask if it was some school fr really smart kids. i would explain that it was just another option beyond regular public middle schools, but no one understood that. i learned so much there which fueled me to explore myself and my strengths. i got to know my teachers as ppl and not as authority figures. they were concerned abt what i wanted to learn and not solely on state-required curriculum.

thus, i decided to continue in the alternative education strand and went through the heinous application process to get into community high school. community only enrolls 400 kids, as opposed to the 2,000+ that the main high schools house. it's still a public school but because of the more individualized learning and teaching strategies, one has to apply and show their commitment to get in. applications were taken on a first-come-first-serve basis (until 1996 when it got out of control...). when i was in the 8th grade and applying, the demand fr this school was insane. i waited in line (camping out on the front lawn of the school) fr 4 days. crazy, right? you're probably asking why it was so important to me to get into this school. most 8th graders don't give a damn abt their high school education. the opportunities that this school offered amazed me, and i wanted so badly to be a part of this place where the student was so important. i didn't feel that i could get much benefit out of the regular high schools. class sizes were kept down and classes were very english and writing oriented. i had the option to create my own classes or take classes at the university of michigan if i was interested in courses which weren't offered at school. once again, the teachers didn't stop caring when the school day was over. i met some amazing friends and mentors in my teachers there. they encouraged me in all of my endeavors. in addition, the smaller atmosphere of the school provided me with the chance to not feel lost in my own school. the hierarchy of cliques had little impact on me. while groups of friends still existed, you were not assigned to a group based on what you looked like. i never had a set group of friends that i hung out with; i was friends with ppl of all tastes and backgrounds.

through my choices in my education, i have learned not to just take what i'm dealt if i'm dealt bullshit. no one was on my ass if i decided not to go to class--i went to class because i wanted to learn. i took responsibility fr my choices and took charge of my learning. i designed my own schedule based on what my interests were and as a result, became so active and invigorated in school. sure, it was only public high school, but i gained so much that i don't think most high schools can teach you. i wasn't treated as an identification number, i was treated as a human.



hey mofo, if you want to see more mad comics, email me at superflympiguy@yahoo.com



A couple of weeks ago I finally graduated high school. And with that, I left behind 4 ridiculous years of my life. I've always known how stupid high school was, and it takes some people years to figure out how pointless high school is. Just because you were popular in high school doesn't mean anything once you get out, and just because you were a nerd in high school doesn't mean anything once you get out.

My true hatred for high school has actually lessened. In the 10th grade, I was ready to drop out. But I stayed, and I'm actually glad I did, because high school is such a small part of my life, I decided I'd just get it over with. My last year of high school was probably the easiest year of high school, and I had some real teachers that didn't seem like they wanted to get out of there as much as I did. But most schools and most kids don't have that luxury. I was lucky enough to go to one of these arty high schools that honestly are much less torturous than regular high school. I went to a regular high school for one year, and it was pure hell. Too many people, football teams, teachers that don't give a shit who you are. But no matter if you go to an arty school or not, there are certain omnipresent forces in all high schools.

In high school, learning is just second to your social life, which I find to be really pathetic. And then of course, there is the administration and all of the completely ludicrous rules they set upon us. In my school district, they said that if you have 3 unexcused absences and are under 17, they could suspend your license for truancy. What the fuck! And then months later, they tell us that even if we bring a doctor's note to school, the absence won't be excused. So basically, they are causing us to have unexcused absences. It's stupid shit like this that makes me hate school. Also, I had a true loathing for my principal.

I went to the high school that was deemed the best in the county. So my principal of course had a big head about it, and was obsessed with us always looking like we were the best. During graduation rehearsal, he was screaming about how if anyone did something stupid up there, he'd have you arrested. Just more little things that made me apathetic towards school. Near the end, it just became this place I went to every day and didn't really do much of anything, and it didn't affect my life much. I've never had school spirit or any of that jazz, because school was honestly never that important to me. I'm pro-learning, but anti-high school in a lot of ways. I really love to learn, and that's why I am deciding to go to art school, so I can continue doing the things that I want to do, without the stupid interference's of high school. People think that high school should be the best years of life. I think that's pretty pathetic. I think it's after high school that you can really start living.

-rell

a bowl of oatmeal .. go visit her site @ <http://www.chickpages.com/zinescene/tubesocks/>



Establishment." How did we pay for it? For the last few we just put in an advertising centerfold with the business cards of a dozen of the cooler small local businesses in town. They'd pay us 10 or 20 bucks, we'd pass out 500 of their cards to the local youth, and it was a good deal for both of us. For the first few issues we typed up a sponsor sheet with a front title that said, "Support your local high schools" and asked friends, neighbors, and local businesses to sponsor a local student press without going too far into what it was actually about. If they asked we said, "a discussion about how to improve our education" which was completely true 100 percent. After gathering all the submissions, we'd print any of them that made sense and weren't repetitive, and would spend a few hours at Kinko's printing them up. How did we hand it out? In the lunchroom, table to table. A few times it was confiscated, a few times we were carted down to the principal's office, but nothing came of it. The Board of Education managed to pass a new lengthy set of ridiculous school laws regarding the "distribution of student publications." In the next issue we attacked their very laws and treatment of the paper, and all went smoothly. We passed out between 300 and 600 c each paper depending on our funding at the time - quite enough to penetrate a school of 1000 and its administration. It would always make for a lively day at school - teachers would ask for the latest "Voice of Liberation," many classes would talk about the essays, students would be reprimanded for reading "The Voice" in class, teachers would yell at the students telling them to put them away during class. We touched upon as many issues as we could. There were always a few articles that stood out as more offensive, graphic, or attention-getting as the others, and of course the administration received calls and letters about these articles. "How can you let my children read this in your school," they moaned. Well, dear responsible parent, they're just learning. That's what school is for, isn't it? A grand occasion indeed. Go for it!

Hello again. By now 98 percent of society would have already labeled me and my essay into the "worthless teenage whiner" category and turned this page, while continuing to eat cheese doodles, go channel surfing, and set the ol' alarm clock for the commute the next morning. But you did not. You see you are something special, dear reader, and we might have something going here. Yes, we are going to get something going, right now. Agreed?

So here you are, two fine chances to prove to your high school and your world that you do have something to say and that you don't deserve to be treated like cans of chick peas in an assembling plant on their way to Safeway. Don't let high school tell you what to do! Beat them at their own game - tell high school what to do!

- Bill Wetzel

As for me, I'm compiling a book with stories from youth and schools across the country, and would be most interested in anything you have to say. Feel free to send anything to: Bill Wetzel Jr., 615 Little Silver Point Road, Little Silver, NJ 07739 or email me at: wetzel_bill@hotmail.com



DO I HAVE AN ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU!!!

Welcome, kind reader, to Red Bank Regional High School. It's where I went to high school and chances are, it's very similar to the high school near you. I was not very happy at this high school and 10 bucks says that you would not or did not enjoy high school either. So after all the worthless assignments I received, I have decided to give other youth a couple of assignments that I consider to be much more enlightening, empowering, and of course, fun. So go on, give 'em a try. No report cards here.

What happened at my school was not in any way difficult or expensive, and certainly a fine young model citizen like you could far transcend these two simple school-improving actions. Most of these were done as a group with a few cool buddies, and what's most important is that you do them as well - whether you're in or out of school.

1. Banners. We went to the local fabric store, and bought 10 yards of the cheapest white material (grand total \$5). The first day of school was coming up soon so we took a big roll of masking tape and outlined the words, "Welcome Back to Jail." It was a bit of a nuisance but the banner ended up looking nearly professional in comparison to no tape at all. We painted inside the tape and hung it up to dry overnight. 7:00 in the morning on the lawn in front of the school we had 6 of us holding up this banner for all the faculty, parents, students, (and of course nervous incoming frosh) to see. The first time we hung this, the principal went up in flames. But we kept our fine adult manners, reserved our right for free speech on school grounds, and displayed on each following return from school vacations without an interruption. And the students honked like crazy when they drove in and saw it. For graduation we hung a banner that read "Free At Last" in the opposite bleachers and it got a louder ovation than any of the "before you stand fine young students ready for the future" speeches. The cops ran after the banner hanger there, handcuffed her before the entire crowd, arrested her on 3 counts, and after numerous letters to the police, editorials in the local paper, and hundreds of parents booing at their own police force, the charges were dropped. I imagine your local police force would not be quite as brainless. Hoist those banners!

2. Student Underground Papers. In our case, it began with a four page paper called "The Voice of Liberation." (17 x 11 double sided) folded in half with two writers and two essays. With each issue we got a few more writers, a few more pages, and by issue seven it was 16 pages with over 30 writers and a dozen artists. In the last issue we were able to interview teachers about what really goes on in the school, what they think of "the system" and they said some pretty amazing things. Of course, they trusted us to keep them anonymous, except for the few with tenure. One english teacher even assigned each student in the class to write an article for the paper. Many youth have very powerful things to say and they don't even realize it. How did we create it? We tried to mix art with writing, not keep the font too small, and keep the more exciting articles in the front and back to attract attention. The simpler and more down-to-earth are generally the more effective for a high school audience. A title such as "What's Wrong with School" always works better than "Flaws in the Educational



-so maybe time is the issue?

yes, maybe you haven't realized, that by the time you get out of skool, you have already spent one third of your life in some place you probably aren't even that fond about. believe it or not, those years do add up. "it's only two more years"... blah blah, it's just amazing when you think about it. and what for eh? i'm not in this for a piece of paper. that's not what it's about.

what's it all for? your whole youth experience has been dampered by the effects of a bad education. it's sad even when i think about it. i've been led through this system for 11 years. and you think it's all worth it, and you have to do it.. but you're wrong.

what do you want to do with your life? isn't that always the question. when you sit in the counselor's office being insulted because of your choice to drop out, or being so massively confused by your college counselor when trying pick your classes out for the next semester.



figure this in there too. dafu lehan, the imitation jedi knight, lived to his last day when he was 75, fighting the empire. what did he have to show for himself? besides going to skool one third of his life finding himself, he worked the another third of his life. that only left the retirement years for the rebel alliances.

not only did dafu lehan waste many of his prime years working, and "educating" himself in school, he could have been fighting the evils of the empire, and saving the day. he could have been fighting for more peace way earlier than he did. even though that's what he wanted to do, he was trapped. only, if he knew there was a way out.. but he didn't. no one ever informed them. but then again, no one could feel the force like he or the other jedi's in the council did. dafu could have done better with his life.. he could have done more.



it's just hard to emphasize that school isn't necessary to succeed in life. it's really painful when you even tie in all the time you spent in there finding, and training for what you plan to do. and even then, you go just the workforce, some place where much like school, takes your life away. it would be so great if people can stand back and evaluate the situation. please don't get caught up and just let it go. do what you want to do, and don't just get stuck in school, or that grunt work job.

use your time wisely, and do it all now. what is life for anyways? i'm sure it's not here so you can just go to school and "learn" or work it away.

The Girl Scout Laws

HOW TO 'GET THE MOST' OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL
by G.I. Junk

Don't be fooled boys and girls! Selling yourself for sex doesn't necessarily mean you're devoid of ethics. In fact, such a so-called "seedy" hobby can help a struggling lycean prepare for tomorrow, **today**. A female who holds down more than one relationship in her high school years automatically hears whispers of 'slut' follow her down the hallway, while all males essentially have carte blanche socially, so take advantage of the loose boundaries, kiddies! These are indeed the best years of your life, and you can ready yourself for a more difficult job market by adding cash to the college fund AND learning a sense of social comfort that will aid you all your years. Yes, folks: You're stuck in that public hellhole, so why not realize that *prostitution is the key to success!*

With that established, I can map out a few pointers to get you on the road to masterful whoring:

1) Develop a reputation—

This is probably the pinnacle of successful prostitution. Without it, you're nothing, and with it, you're everything. It can literally make or break a youngster's career. Now, don't blow it out of proportion and try passing out fliers, screening shirts, what-have-you; more logical steps would be strategic placement and action at parties and exploiting the demotions of other adolescents by angering them, thus leading to verbal abuse behind your back. Whatever you do, don't make your intentions known, and take every opportunity you can to gain a history.

2) Know your standards—

It may seem like a bit of a cliché, but a pricelist helps set firm boundaries, stomping upon attempted transgressions. As soon as you're sure of your placement at the very bottom of the social hierarchy, print up a copy or two to add distinction.

i am better than you.. no, actually, i'm not.

A Girl Scout is thrifty.

but you always try to be something you're not

A Girl Scout is a friend to animals.

something you think is soooo cool

A Girl Scout is loyal.

yes yes, that's you.. and i can't take that

A Girl Scout is cheerful.

i can't love that, i can't see that

A Girl Scout is clean

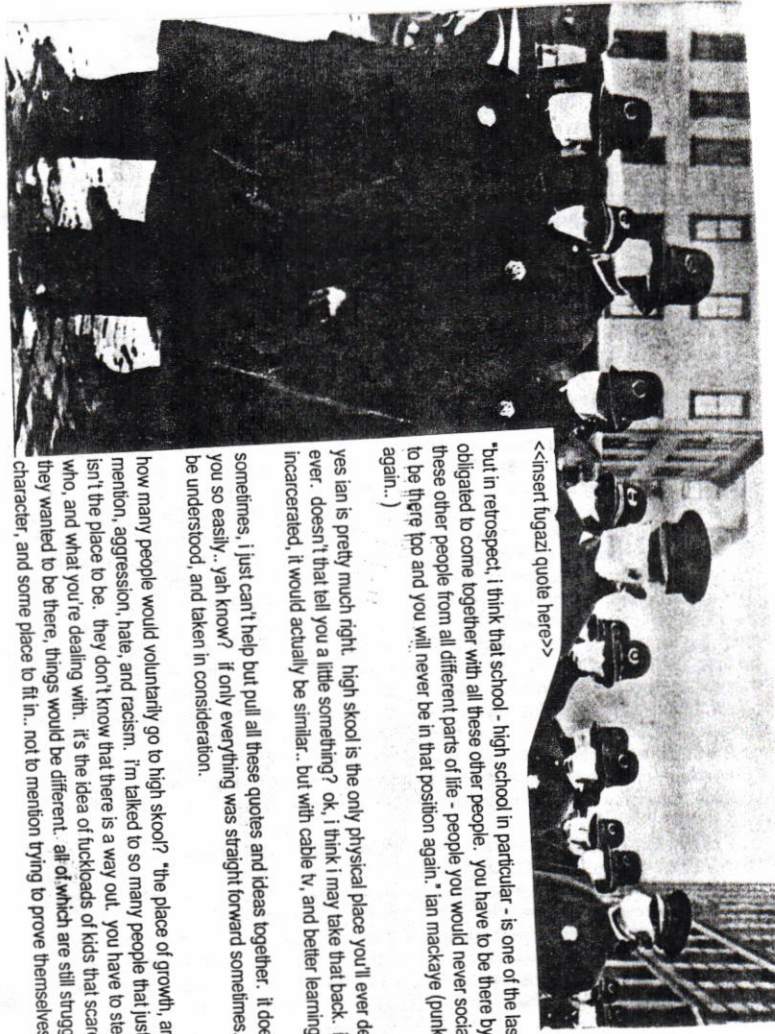
sorry, but i can't accept that

how many people would voluntarily go to high school? "the place of growth, and learning". not to mention, aggression, hate, and racism. i'm talked to so many people that just can't realize that this isn't the place to be. they don't know that there is a way out. you have to step back, and look at who, and what you're dealing with. it's the idea of fuckloads of kids that scare me. now maybe if they wanted to be there, things would be different. all of which are still struggling, and finding a character, and some place to fit in.. not to mention trying to prove themselves.

sometimes, i just can't help but pull all these quotes and ideas together. it doesn't always come to you so easily.. yeh know? if only everything was straight forward sometimes. i just hope this may be understood, and taken in consideration.

yes ian is pretty much right. high skool is the only physical place you'll ever deal with like that.. ever. doesn't that tell you a little something? ok, i think i may take that back. if you were to be incarcerated, it would actually be similar.. but with cable tv, and better learning facilities. (but in retrospect, i think that school - high school in particular - is one of the last times when you're obligated to come together with all these other people. you have to be there by law, and there are these other people from all different parts of life - people you would never socialize with - that have to be there too and you will never be in that position again." ian mackaye (punk planet 31 once again..))

<<insert fugazi quote here>>



EDUCATING YOURSELF DOESN'T NOT MEAN FORCING YOURSELF TO READ THIS BOOK, OR STUDY FOR THAT FINAL. TEACH YOURSELF, IF YOU CAN..

ANYTHING IN GENERAL. IT DOES HAPPEN.

WHEN YOU LEARN ON YOUR OWN, IT PUTS EVERYTHING IN YOUR HANDS. THAT'S THE WAY IT SHOULD BE. IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW THIS CHORD, OR THAT HTML CODE, YOU'LL JUST GO OVER IT AGAIN. IT WON'T STRIKE YOU AS SCHOOL WOULD. THERE'S NOT GONNA BE A FINAL. IT'S ALL ON YOUR OWN, AND AT YOUR OWN PACE. TRY IT.. IF YOU CAN THAT IS? I'M NOT SURPRISED IF SKOOL TOOK THE FUN OUT OF LEARNING

LEARNING ISN'T ABOUT FORCE

A LITTLE HARD TO SPALLOV? JUST THINK BACK AT EVERYTHING YOU LEARNED THIS YEAR IN SKOOL. TRY TO RECALL AT LEAST 25% PERCENT OF IT.. I BET YOU CAN'T.

THE OTHER THINGS LIKE FINALS, CREDITS, AND THE REST JUST OUTWEIGH THE

LEARNING EXPERIENCE. THAT IS IF THERE EVER WAS ONE.

INSTITUTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL RAPE..

I NEVER REALLY LEARNED ANYTHING IN SKOOL. IT'S LIKE T.O.D, BUT EVERYTHING I DO NOW, I BASICALLY LEARNED ON MY OWN. I LEARNED HOW TO WRITE BASICALLY ON MY OWN. I LEARNED HOW TO MAKE MUSIC. I LEARNED HOW TO MAKE WEB PAGES, AND DO GRAPHIC DESIGN. THE LIST GOES ON AND ON. WHEN YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE OTHER FACTORS OF LEARNING IN SKOOL, IT JUST BECOMES TOO HARD. IT'S INSTITUTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL RAPE..

I TRIED AND I TRIED. THROUGHOUT THE MANY YEARS OF BEING IN THE SYSTEM, WHETHER IT WAS HIGH SKOOL, OR COLLEGE, IT'S JUST HARD FOR ME TO LEARN. SOMETHING WHEN I'M WORRIED ABOUT PASSING OR FAILING. IT'S NOT FAIR TO BE PUT IN SUCH A POSITION. BUT THAT'S ONLY IF YOU TAKE THAT PATH. IT'S REALLY HARD TO SAY THOUGH, SINCE MANY PEOPLE DON'T HAVE THE OPTION TO DO SOMETHING ELSE. OR THEY JUST MERELY DON'T KNOW ABOUT ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVES.

3) Location, Location, Location—

Two areas to consider when addressing school prostitution locale: where you can be found, and where you can do your business. The former is rather simple: I'd suggest a wall in a crowded hallway where you're sure to be seen without sticking out horribly. The former, though, takes a bit more contemplation. Sure, depending on the flexibility of the schedules of you and your clientele, a spot outside of school is always easy. However, if you're confined to the region within the prison walls of High School, a creative, sequestered area must be found. Don't seek out the typical, much talked-about "make-out spot." You're sure to be caught and your business will fizzle soon after. Do the nasty in a vacated locker room or classroom. You'll be better off.

4) Don't go over the top—

Sure, you're doing something a bit unorthodox, but it's very practical. Never forget that, or you'll find yourself wearing late-eighties lace-up jeans and smacking gum at all times. Keep your wits about you and remember that someday, you'll escape from the trials of public education. Mark my words, play it safe, and you'll find yourself truly deriving benefits from the joke that is American high school. Thanks for your time.

"i guess that whole skool thing did change me socially. i do seem more outgoing, and a little less shy now. sac high just kinda not only pushed and help me to grow, but at the same time, i realized, it also hampered my social skills.

up until after i left, i've never met anyone outside of the whole skool atmosphere. it kinda makes me wonder. you can't depend on skool to bring you friends. i guess that's bound to happen when that whole concept gets fixated in your head. at least now, after my whole unskooling phayze, i'm moving on."

some letter i wrote to my friend leah.. (winter 98/99)

st of Pacific Lumber's log-
prac -interview with earth first! activist jeremy jensen
aid:

ill, an activist who for the
ye jeremy has been one of my best friends since high skool, and
ab I've known him since our ventures at sutter middle skool.
lw thanks to him, I realized a lot of things that never really
d occurred to me. there were other things in the world worth
d caring for, such as the environment, and so on.
St thanks jeremy once again! and be careful. this was done via
in email. just because typing is a much easier method to get
a thoughts down. and also because i don't like transcribing
irc things. I have a letter i've written to him in my other zine
of London about the de-
show has dropping out affected you, and your life?

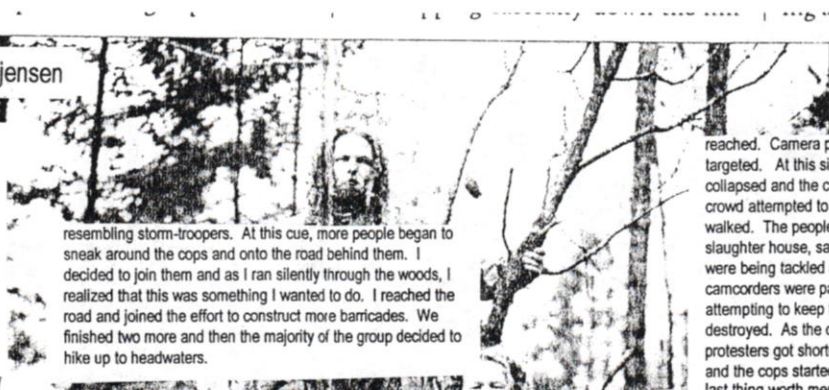
First of all I consider it rising out.. Not only does that make it
seem more positive but it implies a sort of transcendence of the
system. There are many ways that leaving school has affected
me. One is that, up until a few months ago I was able to
dedicate all my time to a cause I believe in. After leaving school
I almost immediately headed up to Humboldt County to
participate in Earth First's ongoing direct action campaign to
preserve the forests and rivers of that area.

what got you into earth first?

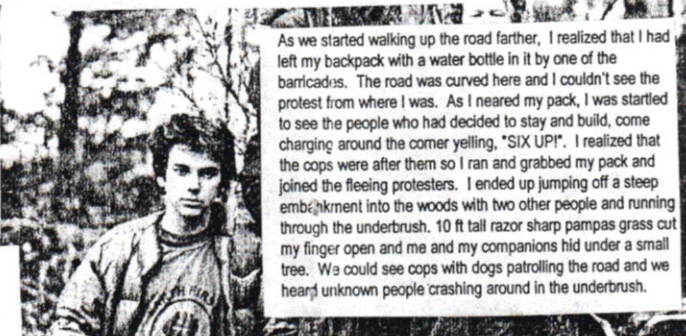
My mom actually. She took me to a big rally in 1997 in
Humboldt. That was when I participated in civil disobedience
for the first time. The day after the rally there was mass action
at Newburg gate, one of the many gates into Headwaters
Forest. There were a couple hundred people there, and lots of
music, and huge puppets. I had a camera and took all kinds of
cool pictures.

As the protest progressed, a group of women decided to sit in
front of the gate in a line with their arms linked. I forgot to
mention the sheriffs in riot gear in a line in front of the front of
the gate. At this point a large group of people, 15 or so, who
had snuck around the gate through the forest burst out onto the
road about 100 ft from the gate and proceeded to do a line
dance. The sheriffs were heavily outnumbered and decided to
stay at the gate. If they had chased the dancers I'm sure that
the entire crowd would have taken the chance to rush up the
road and into Headwaters. The dancers then began to create a
massive road block with boulders and logs gathered from the
side of the road. Backup for the outnumbered sheriffs started
to arrive, but unfortunately for them they would have to go
through the crowd to park their vehicles. As the crowd realized
this, some people began to get out of the way, but others sat in
front of these vehicles and were thrown aside by people

the very rape of the wilderness,
to them was every bit as illegal
immoral as the defilement of an-
person.
vid and the others believed that



resembling storm-troopers. At this cue, more people began to
sneak around the cops and onto the road behind them. I
decided to join them and as I ran silently through the woods, I
realized that this was something I wanted to do. I reached the
road and joined the effort to construct more barricades. We
finished two more and then the majority of the group decided to
hike up to headwaters.



As we started walking up the road farther, I realized that I had
left my backpack with a water bottle in it by one of the
barricades. The road was curved here and I couldn't see the
protest from where I was. As I neared my pack, I was startled
to see the people who had decided to stay and build, come
charging around the corner yelling, "SIX UPI". I realized that
the cops were after them so I ran and grabbed my pack and
joined the fleeing protesters. I ended up jumping off a steep
embankment into the woods with two other people and running
through the underbrush. 10 ft tall razor sharp pampas grass cut
my finger open and me and my companions hid under a small
tree. We could see cops with dogs patrolling the road and we
heard unknown people crashing around in the underbrush.

We decided to abandon our attempt at seeing Headwaters. I
later found out that a small number of people made it to the
grove and spent a very cold miserable night there. I rejoined
the main body of the protest and was only back for a few
minutes before the cops declared it an illegal assembly. They
gave us five minutes to disperse and warned us that they would
use chemical weapons. We replied that there were asthmatics
in the crowd and that tear gas and pepper spray could kill them.
Then the entire group circled up in the area and did various
things to pass the time, om, sing, construct makeshift gasmasks,
etc. At the last minute the cops gave us another warning.
Then at ten seconds he began to count down. Nobody moved
until he got to one then it sort of fell apart. The riot cops
jumped over the line of women and tackled the first person they

ated redwood
refuse to come
until the loggers
ing - but it also
tain social ca-
net. if you're an expert
tree climber, you're it.

You swagger. And David was as good
as anyone. He wasn't much of a swag-
gerer, but his skill in the trees did
square his shoulders a little bit and

FAMILY PORTRAIT OF HUMBOLDT CO
WARRIORS: Earth First!ers Jason "Ja
(rear) with (from left) Jeremy Jensen
Avcollie and Jennifer Walts at THP 1
ging site where Chain was killed in S

side above, he walked over to he
chain saw running - a vaguely tl
ening act. He revved the motor: "L
you love the sound of a chain saw?"

the logger snapped, wavi
hand. "It's all bullshit. Be
I don't give a shit about
that. I just want to get off

reached. Camera people and spokespeople were specifically
targeted. At this sight the crowd began to disperse. The circle
collapsed and the crowd started up the road. The front of the
crowd attempted to stay cool and not panic. So they just
walked. The people nearest the cops however, like cows in a
slaughter house, saw what was happening to the people who
were being tackled and broke into a run. Cameras and
camcorders were passed through the crowd like foot balls,
attempting to keep the record of the events from being
destroyed. As the distance between the cops and the
protesters got shorter, the people in the back stopped running
and the cops started to march in a row across the street. The
last thing worth mentioning is that the cops started marching
really weird. They were taking little half steps and keeping one
foot in front the whole time, it added a weird twist to moment.

-what is important to you? goal wise, and so on... girls, porn,
life, the greater issue such as the environment, trees, etc.?

My greatest goal right now is to make it through the rest of my
probation without going crazy. What's important to me is that
people start looking forward and not only in the present. They
need to consider what affects they're actions will have in the
long run and if that's what they really want. Millionaires, poor
people, activists, yuppies, cops and so on. We all need to look
ahead.

-why put yourself on the line?

Why not? It's the only way I feel that I can help implement
changes I strongly believe need to take place, i.e. put a halt to
unsustainable management of the land.

-what have you, and what will you do to save the earth from
companies like pacific lumber, and other corporations that
blatantly destroy the environment?

The earth itself isn't in jeopardy, but the life forms inhabiting it.
What I have done to save the environment is participate in
direct action and spread information on what is going on here
and what people can do to stop it. I can't really say what I'm
gonna do in the future, but I do know that I have a desire for
change that I need to fulfill

-what's wrong with not leaving things alone?

"The only thing that is bad when it's left alone is cheese
because it gets moldy." Joshua Gould circa 1999 (ed. note I
don't think he really understood the question, so... nevermind.)

the distinct impression that he